

## THE NEW PLAYS

"The Wheel"  
Turns on Gambling.

BY CHARLES DARNTON.

A WIFE has been known to follow her husband to a gambling house, but never until last night had we heard of one running a place of her own to break her weak-willed spouse of the roulette habit. If it was Winchell Smith's purpose to create a surprise he certainly succeeded in doing so with "The Wheel" at the Gaiety.

"The Wheel" turns on gambling, and in a general way Mr. Smith handles it understandingly. The new twist he gives it must be taken as part of the theatrical game, so there need be no widespread alarm on the part of husbands who delight to keep their eye on the little ball. The establishment of a hall of chance in this instance is made possible, if not probable, by the keeper of a gambling house who loses his heart to the young woman whose husband is one of his best patrons.

It seemed at first as though Kate O'Hara would never marry young Morton, not because she knew his weakness, but because he was a "swell" while she worked for a living. When his father, after the traditional manner, paid her an unexpected visit in her tiny little millinery shop and advised her that marriage with his son would bring unhappiness to both, she readily agreed with him. She appeared to be a wholly sensible girl.

But when "Ted" found that she loved him the situation changed, and the second act of the play disclosed them settled in new furniture. Then "Ted" stayed out all night, and next morning he confessed he had been at the wheel again. A girl from the shop got the news and carried it to Baker, the gambler, who came to see Kate and told her that her husband was a hopeless victim of the game.

It was not surprising, therefore, to find "Ted" risking his money again and plunging until he had lost \$25,000. But it was no less than astonishing to see Kate walk into the room and be revealed as the real keeper of the place. Baker had fitted it up for her in an apartment house he owned. All this was made to sound quite simple, and nobody got excited about it. The husband, who had been humiliated and so ashamed of himself that he never gambled again. And of course the professional gambler proved a good loser by giving Kate his meekness as he announced his departure for California to open a couple of houses in a healthier climate.

The gambling house scene was in-

duced with the utmost propriety. Even the colored waiter who served drinks and cigars spoke in level tones except for a slight emphasis on his reassuring, "Yes, a-r-r!" It is this scene that will doubtless give the play whatever glamour it may have, but the two acts that precede it represent the better part of Mr. Smith's work. The characters are human and the dialogue is always to the point.

Thomas W. Ross was excellent as the self-possessed gambler who told the truth about his business. Ida St. Leon played Kate simply and sincerely, with a commonplace speech that suited the part. Charles Laite suggested the husband's mania for gambling without any melodramatic nonsense. First as an errand girl and then as a maid, Lella Bennett, who was so exasperatingly funny as the colored waitress in "The First Year," again proved a joy, and Harold Waldridge added to the humor of the occasion by his work as a rising young milliner.

Capitally acted, "The Wheel" is likely to find its devotees along Broadway.

LINER BUMPS ICEBERG.

Scrapes Along Under Water Shelf.

Then Slides Off.

Capt. Ole Bull brought the Norwegian-American liner Bergenafjord into port yesterday afternoon with an exciting story of a collision with an iceberg. It was on the eastern voyage, about 150 miles east of Cape Race, that the Bergenafjord hit a berg which projected only forty feet out of water.

"It didn't look very big, but I figured it must have weighed fully 150,000 tons," said Capt. Bull. "It was, of course, forty fathoms deep beneath the surface of the water, and it must have

had an irregular projection like a shelf just under the water line, for after we bumped into it we scraped along the shelf. As we slid off it we bent two blades of the propeller."

**Sure Relief**

BELLANS INDIGESTION 25 CENTS

6 BELLANS Hot water Sure Relief FOR INDIGESTION

## AMUSEMENTS.

WINTER GARDEN 15th St. & 4th Ave. WED. 8:30 MAT. 2:30. THE WHIRL NEW YORK

ELTINGE TONIGHT

HELEN MACKELLAR

in "BACK PAY"

A New Play by FANNIE HURST.

BIJOU THEATRE, West 45th St. & 8th Ave. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

MARCH HARES A Sadistic Comedy.

THEATRE, W. 45th St. & 8th Ave. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

TIMES SQUARE HONORS ARE EVEN

WILLIAM COURTNEY

AND LOLA FISHER

"It's a Darned Good Show—and It's Clean."

PARK THEATRE, 23rd St. & 4th Ave. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

WILLIAM FARNUM in

PERJURY

DIRECTED BY HARRY MILLAR

CENTRAL THEATRE, Broadway at 47th St. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

HUNDREDS OF CHOICE SEATS.

MATINEE WED. 2:30.

THUNDERCLAP

RIVIERA THEATRE, Broadway, 37th St. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

William Fox's Wonder Play

OVER THE HILL

DIRECTED BY HARRY MILLAR

First Time at Popular Prices

## AMUSEMENTS.

PROMENADE THEATRE 120th St. & 1st Ave. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

MIMIC WORLD

MOVING LAST NIGHT

NORA BAYES

TO CONTINUE RUN

IN SENSATIONALLY

SUCCESSFUL NEWLY-PAID

JUST MARRIED

WILLIAM MARTIN AND LYNN OVERMAN.

HOLIDAY MATINEE LEON DAY.

CASINO 45th St. & 8th Ave. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

JULIA SANDERSON-TANGERINE

HUDSON THEATRE, 4th St. & 8th Ave. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

THE POPPY GOD

"DREAMS"

IN "SONNY BOY" at the CORT THEATRE.

MOROSCO 1/2 BAT

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## AMUSEMENTS.

CENTURY 42d St. & 6th Ave. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

THE LAST WALTZ

POPULAR MAT. WEDNESDAY, 2:30. 5c.

Opening To-morrow Night

Marjorie Rambeau

"DADDY'S GONE A-HUNTING"

by Zoe Akins.

Author of "Daddy's Gone A-Hunting"

Plymouth

4th St. & 12th St. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

VIOLET HEMING AND OTTO KRUGER in

SONYA

The Naughtiest Beautiful Love Story.

BROADHURST 4th St. & 12th St. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

THE PLAY

GEORGE BROADHURST

FIRST MATINEE SATURDAY 1c. SEATS NOW LABOR DAY MAT. MONDAY

GARRICK 35th St. & 6th Ave. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

MR. PIM

LAST SEVEN PERFORMANCES.

"PEACHES"

THEATRE, West 45th St. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

LITTLE THEATRE

The 1st Year

"SONNY"

THEATRE, West 45th St. 8:30. MATINEE WED. 2:30.

"SONNY BOY" at the CORT THEATRE.

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